

## County of Los Angeles CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

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August 30, 2004

To:

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Supervisor Michael D. Antorqvich

From:

David E. Janssen

Chief Administrative Officer

TRAFFIC CONTROL AT GRAND AVENUE EXIT OF COUNTY PARKING GARAGE 18 (ITEM 63-C BOARD AGENDA - AUGUST 10, 2004)

On August 10, 2004, on motion by Supervisor Antonovich, the Board directed the Chief Administrative Office (CAO) and Office of Public Safety (OPS) to report back on a plan to address the traffic congestion problems at the Grand Avenue exit of parking garage 18.

A Los Angeles City Department of Transportation (DOT) officer had been directing and controlling traffic at this location between the peak hours of 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. for the past seven years, at no cost to the County. This was recently terminated in light of budget constraints by the City.

An OPS officer has assumed this responsibility on a temporary basis. An officer is directing vehicles exiting the parking garage as well as oncoming traffic from Grand Avenue during the peak hours.

## **Immediate Remedies**

The Executive Office, Internal Services Department (ISD), OPS, and CAO met with DOT representatives on August 25, 2004 to discuss other possible exiting resolutions. Within the next two to four weeks, the following will occur:

 A section of Grand Avenue will be re-striped to assist vehicles exiting from the right lane of the parking garage;

- Additional signage will be placed at the top of the exit ramp to remind drivers that left turns onto Grand Avenue are not allowed between 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.;
- OPS will contact the Music Center to recommend that signage also be posted on the west side of Grand Avenue to advise drivers of the same restriction when exiting the Music Center garage during these hours; and
- OPS and ISD Parking Services will experiment with positioning traffic cones to create a single exit lane at the top of the exit ramp between 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m., which may help minimize vehicle back up on the ramp.

## **Other Alternatives**

County and City representatives will schedule a follow-up meeting once information is available to discuss the feasibility of these other alternatives:

- Extending the time that the Grand Avenue pedestrian crosswalk light stays red when used between 4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday; and
- Installing two left hand only turn signals on north and southbound Grand Avenue at the Temple Street intersection.

## **Permanent OPS Assignment**

The City will provide cost estimates for a DOT officer to resume traffic control at this location so it can be compared to the cost of OPS coverage. In the event that the current OPS coverage becomes permanent, the Department will do so on an overtime basis at a cost of \$64 per day or \$16,640 annually. This will allow the Hall of Administration (HOA), second floor security station (Civic Center patrol) to remain fully staffed. In accordance with County proprietorship policies, tenant departments within the HOA will be billed their pro-rata share of this cost in addition to what they are currently paying for Civic Center patrol services provided by OPS.

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If you have any questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Cynthia Duong at (213) 974-6806.

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